

BEEF CATTLE IN CORN-BELT STATES

SUMMARY TABLE SHOWING FOR THE SIX GROUPS THE VARIOUS FACTORS THAT MAKE UP THE COST PRODUCING A YEARLING.

Item.	Beef.	Baby beef (a).	Dual purpose.	Mixed.	Partially milked.	Double nursing.
Number of farms.....	230	66	130	102	45	23
Average number of cows per farm.....	31.50	34.55	12.75	22.47	14.29	17.32
Cost of maintaining the breeding herd:						
Gross cost of maintaining a cow.....	\$35.12	\$36.77	\$35.14	\$43.95	\$42.75	\$46.50
Credits other than calf.....	4.79	5.39	49.07	24.73	21.43	33.26
Net cost of maintaining a cow.....	\$30.33	\$31.38	6.07	19.22	21.32	13.24
Net cost of maintaining a bull.....	42.27	63.26	37.51	46.79	34.14	40.53
Calf crop:						
Percentage of cows raising calves to weaning time.....	84.30	90.70	83.90	57.50	90.10	92.10
Number of calves per bull.....	20.90	25.30	10.70	18.50	12.60	15.00
Cost of raising a calf to weaning time:						
Cow charge.....	35.47	34.50	7.24	22.29	23.71	14.53
Bull charge.....	2.29	2.29	4.02	2.91	3.35	3.02
Feed.....	.01	.00	9.35	4.48	.02	.26
Labor.....	.00	.00	2.56	1.11	.00	.01
Total cost at weaning time.....	\$7.74	\$6.79	\$23.27	\$30.78	\$27.08	\$17.82
Cost of raising a yearling:						
Number of farms.....	190	67	90	96	67	22
Average number of calves per farm.....	24.43	30.20	10.57	18.46	11.16	14.23
Cost at weaning time.....(b)	\$8.20	(c)37.01	(b)23.64	(b)30.61	(b)26.39	17.82
Winter-feed cost.....	12.32	35.02	9.53	12.01	12.21	10.24
Other charges.....	4.62	6.02	4.92	4.72	4.66	3.86
Gross cost.....	\$55.14	78.05	\$38.49	\$47.34	\$43.26	\$31.92
Credits.....	1.00	7.53	1.89	1.48	1.54	1.67
Net cost.....	\$53.54	70.52	\$36.60	\$45.86	\$41.72	\$30.25

(a) The statement for the baby-beef group gives figures on the calves until they are marketed at approximately 15 months of age.
 (b) The change in the number of farms on which the tabulation of cost of producing yearlings is based caused the figure on cost of calf at weaning time to change in this part of the table.
 (c) The figures underscored call attention to the fact that the baby-beef animal is carried somewhat beyond the yearling stage.

(From the United States Department of Agriculture.)

That cattle in most cases add to the farm income in the corn belt is indicated by the results of a recent investigation conducted by the United States department of agriculture as part of a comprehensive study of the meat situation in which its specialists have been engaged for some time. The direct profit from the raising of calves in this section, the averages seem to establish, is usually small, but the investigators point out that there are other factors which make the practice more advantageous than would appear at first sight.

Among these advantages are the fact that live stock on the farm provides a home market and a means of utilization of farm roughage, some of which might be wasted if not fed, and the use of pastures which could not be employed profitably in any other way. Live stock also affords a ready home market for certain other crops, which at times would have to be hauled considerable distances to be sold. Finally, the presence of live stock on the farm gives productive employment throughout the year to labor which at certain seasons might otherwise be idle. Live stock also gives some interest on capital invested on equipment which would produce nothing if not utilized at all seasons. The fertilizing value of manure also must be considered. When these factors are taken into consideration, even though there appears to be little or no profit as shown by cost figures, it is believed that in most instances the farm income is greater because of cattle having been kept on the farm. The keeping of live stock, therefore, is to be recommended on farms having large quantities of cheap roughage available or having land which can be best utilized as pasture.

Summary of Results.

The figures of costs cited by the investigators are purely averages based on actual farms and herds investigated. The investigators obtained in 1914 and 1915, 5,906 records from farms in Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas. These records dealt with 14,634 cows, 621 bulls and 12,591 calves produced from them, of which 2,023 were classed as baby beef.

Classification of Records.

These were arranged in six groups based on six distinct practices fol-

lowed by the farmers of this region. These are:

- (1) Beef.—Farms where all the cows are kept strictly for beef (except baby beef), in which there is no sale of milk and butter.
- (2) Baby beef.—Farms devoted to the production of high-grade calves fattened and sold at from 12 to 18 months of age.
- (3) Dual purpose.—Farms on which all the cows are milked and the calves weaned at birth and raised on skim milk.
- (4) Mixed.—Farms where the best cows are milked, their calves being weaned at birth, while calves from other cows run with their dams. This is a combination of beef and dual purpose.
- (5) Partially milked.—Farms on which calves are not weaned but on which a part of the milk is drawn from the cow, the calf taking the remainder.
- (6) Double nursing.—Farms where some of the cows are milked and their calves given to other cows.

Summary of Results.

The following summaries are based on these six classifications and are given as averages from the records of the farms and live stock actually reported. The conclusions are averages for the entire section studied and the reader must bear in mind that there are wide divergences in cost in the several states. For this reason the report, after considering the general problem, deals in great detail with the range of costs in the several states and the averages for the several sections. The more important factors are cited in the table given herewith:

Improve Wool Crop.

Farmers can do a great deal to improve the quality of wool placed on the market, by taking care to prevent dirt getting into the wool while on the sheep and by more careful trimming of the fleeces.

Keep After Weeds.

Weeds make surprising growth if left a few weeks. It is best to keep them down as fast as they start, otherwise they are very hard to kill. This is where "a stitch in time saves nine."

Sow Rape in Corn.

Sow rape in the corn at last cultivation if you would have good late hog pasture.

MAY HELP OUT HOUSEWIFE

List of Menus That Give Variety With the Use of Only the Standard Foods.

The following menus were worked out by a class in cookery at the Connecticut Agricultural college, the problem being to plan 12 dinners, using only four common foods, beef, potatoes, cabbage, and apples, without repeating a dish, and to select appropriate food combinations and attractive ways of serving these.

These menus could be used in winter or summer, and it is hoped that they may suggest an answer to the housekeeper's oft-repeated question, "What shall I give my family for dinner today?"

1. Roast beef, potatoes roasted with the beef, creamed cabbage, apple pie.
2. Broiled beefsteak, French-fried potatoes, hot slaw, baked apples and cream.
3. Corned beef, boiled potatoes, boiled cabbage, apple Brown Betty.
4. Beefsteak pie, baked potatoes, cold slaw, apple fritters.
5. Minced beef with gravy, browned mashed potatoes, scalloped cabbage with cheese, Dutch apple cake.
6. Beef croquettes, creamed potatoes, cabbage and celery salad with French dressing, apple tapioca.
7. Pot roast, scalloped potatoes, sauerkraut, apple dumplings.
8. Potato soup, browned hash, cabbage and olive salad with boiled dressing, apple Charlotte.
9. Cold beef loaf, German cabbage with sour sauce, potato salad, apple snow.
10. Baked beef liver, stuffed baked potatoes, fried cabbage, apple sauce and apple sauce cake.
11. Creamed dried beef, hashed—browned potatoes, cabbage and green pepper salad with sour cream dressing, apple slump.
12. Rolled stuffed steak, rice potatoes, steamed cabbage with drawn butter sauce, apple and date salad.—Maud E. Hayes, Department of Home Economics, Connecticut Agricultural College.

Sweet Gherkins.

Fill a tub with salt water enough to bear up an egg. Put gherkins about two inches long in this and allow to stand nine days. Remove them from the brine and put in fresh, cold water, allowing them to stand several hours until hardened. Spread out on a folded cloth to free them of moisture. Pack in glass quart jars, fill with cold vinegar, and not add for three weeks in cool place. Then open the jars, drain off the vinegar and add to that of each jar one cupful of sugar, one-half teaspoonful of extract of mace, one-half teaspoonful of cloves and cinnamon, and cayenne pepper to taste. Stir until sugar is dissolved, pour the liquid over the pickles, close the jars and set away in a cool place.

Baked Onions.

Peel as many good, firm medium-sized onions as the size of your family will require. Put them into a saucepan and parboil until tender, not done. Remove and drain water carefully off. Then place in a deep baking dish, close enough together so that they will just swell. Season with salt, pepper and a few tiny pieces of butter. Cover with a layer of finely rolled bread crumbs, drop two or three pieces of butter on these, pour over all one cupful of cream or rich milk and bake until the crumbs are a rich golden brown. Bake in a moderate oven. Remove and serve in individual dishes, either plain or with a white sauce.

Maple Ice.

A cupful of milk, three-quarters of a cupful of maple sirup, two eggs and one cupful of cream. First scald the milk in a double boiler, then add the sirup and pour over the well-beaten eggs. Return all to the boiler, cook until thick, strain, cool, add the cream and freeze.

Lyonnise Eggs.

Peel and chop fine two medium-sized white onions and cook them gently in quarter of a cupful of butter until they begin to color. Stir in one tablespoonful of flour, then add gradually one cupful of hot milk, chicken or veal stock, and stir until smooth and thick. Season with pepper, salt and a speck of powdered mace; add six hard-boiled eggs cut lengthwise into quarters, heat thoroughly, turn out carefully on squares of buttered toast, sprinkle with chopped parsley and serve at once.

Fig Sandwiches.

Cut thin slices of buttered bread in fancy shapes with fig filling between each two. Prepare as follows: One-half a pound finely chopped figs; one-half cupful of sugar, one-half cupful boiling water and two tablespoonfuls of lemon juice. Mix these ingredients and cook in a double boiler until thick enough to spread.

Salt for Egg Stains.

Egg stains on silver spoons can be removed by rubbing them with damp salt.

Aids to Cupid.

"The telephone is a wonderful thing," remarked the man who poses as a student of science.
 "Sure," replied his friend with a sloping brow. "Next to the stage, more girls have quit the switchboard to marry millionaires than any other kind of employment ever undertaken by the fair sex."

Horrible One, Too.

Bacon—How was the Welsh rabbit your wife made last night?
 Egbert—Oh, it was a dream!

Disobliging.

"I'm in tough luck, George. Old doughbags refused to let me marry his daughter until I could show him fifty thousand dollars that I had earned by my own efforts."
 "Too bad, old chap."
 "But that isn't the worst of it. He wouldn't even give me a tip on the market so I could earn the money. A poor man has no chance at all these days."

Men with money can keep their friends by not lending it to them.

What is Castoria

CASTORIA is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrup. It is Pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. It cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. It relieves Teething Troubles, cures Constipation and Flatulency. It assimilates the Food, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. The children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

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Couldn't Follow Instructions.

Not long ago I gave an Irishman a box of pills and cautioned him carefully with regard to adhering to the instructions on the box cover. These instructions read, "Take one pill three times a day."

Next day the man came in and placed the pills on my desk and when I asked him what was the matter he said:

"I couldn't carry out the instructions."
 "What's the reason?" I asked.
 "I took the first pill all right," was his reply, "but I couldn't get to take it the other two times."—Chicago Daily News.

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In His Father's Footsteps.

"What are you going to do when you get to be a man?" a Winchester resident asked Joseph Cannon Watson, the young son of James E. Watson of Rushville, Republican nominee for United States senator, during a visit he made there recently.
 "Oh, I don't know," the lad hastily replied. "But I suppose that I'll run for things."—Indianapolis Star.

Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills have stood the test of time. Test them yourself now. Send for sample to 372 Pearl street, N. Y.—Adv.

New Accessory.

Chauffeur—Mrs. Non Speederly, the car won't run. It must have a hoodoo on it!
 Mrs. Non Speederly—Dear me! I thought I had every possible attachment. But I'll get one!—Judge.

Many Like Him.

Hewitt—He's a pessimist, all right.
 Jewett—I should say so; he could see the dark side to a blonde!



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